

Message Text

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43

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 USIA-12 SIL-01 LAB-02 AID-07

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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1729

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 1459

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC SW

SUBJECT: IV NOMINEES (NILSSON, GUNNAR) (WESTERBERG, LARS)

FOR CU/IVP/V

REF: STOCKHOLM A-102, MARCH 21, 1973

1. POST NOMINATES FOR FY74 PARTIAL GRANTS GUNNAR NILSSON AND LARS WESTERBERG, PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRES. OF INFLUENTIAL SWEDISH CONFEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS (LO). BOTH WILL BE ATTENDING CANADIAN LABOR CONGRESS (CLC) CONVENTION IN OTTAWA IN MID-MAY AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN DAY VISIT TO U.S.

2. WISH CAPITALIZE THIS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO RESTORE CONTACTS WITH THE SWEDISH TRADE UNION MOVEMENT. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, IT SUGGESTED NILSSON FOR A GRANT LAST OCTOBER IN CONNECTION WITH THE AFL-CIO CONVENTION. DUE TO THEN UPCOMING NEGOTIATIONS FOR A NEW NATIONWIDE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT, NILSSON COULD NOT ACCEPT AT THAT TIME. THESE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE NOW BEEN TERMINATED, WITH NEW NEGOTIATIONS SCHEDULED TO GET UNDERWAY LATER THIS YEAR. IT IS LIKELY THAT FOR VARIOUS REASONS THE NEW NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE MUCH MORE DRAWN OUT THAN THE JUST-CONCLUDED TALKS. THEREFORE, THERE IS NO CERTAINTY AS TO WHEN EITHER NILSSON OR WESTERBERG WOULD BE ABLE TO VISIT THE U.S. IN THE FUTURE.

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WITH BOTH OFFICIALS IN THE BEGINNING OF WHAT WILL BE

LENGTHY TERMS OF OFFICE, IT IS DEFINITELY TO OUR
ADVANTAGE TO HAVE THEM OBTAIN A FIRST-HAND ACQUAINTANCE
AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE OF THE U.S. TRADE UNION MOVEMENT.
A JOINT NILSSON-WESTERBERG VISIT WOULD BE A MAJOR
ACCOMPLISHMENT IN RESTORING TRADE UNION CONTACTS.

3. SERVICES OF AN INTERPRETER WOULD BE NEEDED. HOWEVER,
IT IS POSSIBLE THAT BIRGER VIKLUND, SWEDISH LABOR
ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON, WOULD ACCOMPANY AND INTERPRET.
OTHER BIOGRAPHIC DATA CONTAINED IN REFERENCE.

4. APPRECIATE RESPONSE ASAP.

5. ADDITIONAL BIO AND PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS UPCOMING.
HIRABAYASHI

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